

NOV - Birthdays

10/01 Larry Southerland
 10/03 Darius Mack, Whitney McKee
 10/05 Sherry Mitchell, +Harry McDougald
 10/06 Latonya Bethea, Bianca Goodwin
 10/09+Edna Walters
 10/10 +Lamont McCallum, +Bernard Blount
 10/11 Jacob Savannah, +Annie Leazer
 10/12 Aja MCLaurin, +Lenora Smith
 10/13 Anthony McDuffie
 10/14 Douglas Thompson Sr.
 10/15 +Roy Leazer, +Pauline Pressley
 10/18 Maya McDonald, Dorothy McCall, +Gail Barfield
 10/19 Daryl McKiver, Lena McNatt, Brianna Goodwin
 10/20 Regina Walters
 10/21 +Samuel Leazer Sr.
 10/22 Krystle Melvin, Lisa Fenner, William McNeill Jr.
 10/23 George Lessane, Alma Dawson
 10/24 Fred Gwyn, Michelle McKinnon, +Oglatha McDonald
 10/25 Mr. &Mrs. King Evans
 10/26 +Mary McMillan
 10/27 Rodney Brown, +Vashtie McEachern, +Odessa Williams Mr. &Mrs.Harry McDougald
 10/28 Shelby Foy
 10/30 Mr. &Mrs. Laddie Evans

Upcoming Events

- **Veteran's Sunday**
Sunday Nov. 8, 2020
- **Election Day**
November 3, 2020
- 2020 has been unpredictable, so don't wait to make sure your voice is heard!!



Breast Cancer Awareness Celebration
 Sunday October 18, 2020

Sick and Shut In

Sis. Lela Crawford
 Bro. Joe Hall
 Sis. Lula McNeill
 Sis. Betty McNeill
 Sis. Neangela Brown
 Sis. Alma Dawson
 Sis. Mildred Davis
 Sis. Deloris Jennings

Sis. Melissa Stephens
 Sis. Laura Cade
 Sis. Hazel Hall
 Sis. Alma Dawson
 Sis. Linda Blackmon
 Bro. Clarence Odum
 Bro. Tony Bridgett

Bro. Willie Hall
 Sis. Shirley Blount
 Bro. James Dockery
 Sis. Louise Underwood
 Rev. Arthur Foy
 Sis. Treva Thompson
 Sis. Sadie Graham

Newsletter



First Baptist Church
 504 West 2nd Street
 Lumberton, N.C. 28358

Content

Page 1

Season Saint Spotlight

Page 2

Season Saint...continue

A moment in Black History

Information from Our Deacons

Page 3

Missionary at First Baptist

Church Memories-

Sis. Alice Melvin

Page 4

Sick & Shut-In

November Birthdays

Upcoming Events

Page Inserted

Which Party is Jesus with?

By Rev. Paul Matthews

First Baptist Veterans and

Church Body- Dec. Roland

Little

Season Saint Spotlight Rev. Tony Melvin



Rev. Antony Melvin was born in August 1949 to the late Lillie and Donnell Melvin in Bladen County, NC. He was educated in Fayetteville City schools, graduating from E.E. Smith high school in 1967. After graduating high school, he joined the military for a time. He left the military and matriculated at Fayetteville State University where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree in Speech Theatre. At that time, he was well-known for his acting skills as he acted in many stage plays around Fayetteville. He pursued a Master's Degree at the University of Wisconsin and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Speech Communications and Media. After obtaining his Master's Degree, he enrolled in law school at the University of Iowa. He attended two years there but did not finish because he returned to Fayetteville to help his mother and his siblings financially. He began a career as an insurance salesman with Southern Co. and later started selling insurance for Farm Bureau in Robeson County He married Alice Caple McLean in 1983 and raised four children: Linwood, Chris, Anesha, and Krystle. In his family life, he was known for cooking the best biscuits, picking the ripest fruits, and always having a funny story to tell.

Initially he ran from the call to preach but God eventually tracked him down. He was licensed to preach at First Baptist Church-Lumberton in 1995 by Dr. E. B. Turner.

Season saint spotlight continue on page 2

A Moment in Black History

Nov. 3, 1964- A. W. Willis Jr. was elected to the General Assembly making him the first black to hold this position.

November 4, 2008-President Elect Barack Obama, first black president to occupy the White House.

November 11, 1979- The Bethune Museum & Archives, a depository and center for African American women's history, is established in Washington D.C.

Season Saints.....continue

His Favorite quote derives from something Dr. Turner always said: "I fell in the ditch so many times and each time God pulled me out." He was later ordained to preach in 1998 at Mount Calvary Freewill Baptist Church in Greenville, NC. He has been in ministry since 1995. He loves the Word of God and loves to preach. He currently serves as an Associate Pastor under the direction of Rev. Paul G. Matthews at First Baptist Church-Lumberton. He is fully committed to serving God's people at First Baptist. His favorite scripture is Ephesians 1:3- "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

Information from the Deacons Corner

The deacons have a conference call every Thursday at 10:00 am, if you have someone that you would like for us to lift up in prayer. Please call us on the conference call on Thursday at 10:15am at phone #435-777-2200. And we will listen to what you have to say. We are continuing to pray for First Baptist Church, and that God will keep us all safe doing this Pandemic. God bless you all and continual to keep the faith.

We love you all.

AMEN



Chairman Deacon Board
Dec. Willis Brown

Missionary at First Baptist Church Memories

In this Thanksgiving Season, as we reflect on the work of the Senior Missionary Department, I share in the joy which began in the year 1925 empowering women to implement missions work not only in First Baptist Church but throughout the community as well as the state, through ministries implemented by the Women Baptist Home and Foreign Mission of North Carolina who then provides much needed service in other counties, We are eternally grateful for all the opportunities to touch lives and to make them better. Under the leadership of these women, many missionary efforts have gone forward. In its pioneer years, the members would make and take soup into and cleaning the homes of the church's home bound members. According to Sis. Hazel Kennedy, an avid supporter of the missionary department, she states, "Sis. Isabella Mosley and others would stop by the railroad tracks that runs parallel to what was Fairmont Road, grab a hand of some bush and make a tea and take to the sick and shut in and sure enough it would make them better." Other efforts have been washing their clothes, cleaning the yards of the sick and shut in, annually providing annual food baskets to them, visiting the members who are confined in rest homes and in their homes, serving meals in the homeless shelters, clothes drives and many more.

During this Thanksgiving Season, emphasis is placed on another missionary effort and that is to provide a Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings where the missionary departments, to include the youth, young adult, and the senior department join together and prepare food which is then served to the residents at First Baptist Home, Mohr Plaza and all who will come, a delicious thanksgiving dinner. They as well as the missionaries look forward to this time of coming together one to another sharing love as we eat together and give thanks we are eternally grateful for all that God have enabled this department to do throughout the years and as well said by thanksgiving articles/day spring, "*When our days are filled with grateful moments, our lives will shine with joy. Little by little, as we let go of negative thoughts and words and begin to focus on all the good God has placed in our lives right here, right now, the people around us will encounter the presence of Christ within us in beautiful new ways. In the end, that's what living gratefully is all about. The joy we seek, the peace we hope for, the difference we want to make in this world- it all falls into place when our focus changes from our circumstances to our Creator, from what we wish we had to what we've already been given. That's when "thanksgiving" becomes much more than a season; it becomes a vibrant way of life.*"

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sis. Alice Mclean-Melvin, President
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Union of
Robeson County

First Baptist Veterans and Church Body

1. It is my honor to greet you and honor you for your service. I want to thank you for your support for your support this past Memorial Day.
2. This is a warning order for Memorial Day 2021.
 - a. We will continue to honor our fallen Veterans at Elizabeth Heights Cemetery on May 31 2020 at 1200 noon in Flag Ceremony.
 - b. I solicit your contributions for purchasing flags for our fallen veterans. \$25.00 Please turn in to the church by April 1, 2021.
3. What is a Veteran? Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations defines a veteran as “a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.” This definition explains that any individual that completed a service for any branch of armed forces classifies as a veteran as long as they were not dishonorably discharged.
4. Being a military veteran means you sacrificed a number of years of your life for the privilege of obeying orders from those of higher rank than you. It meant performing seemingly endless numbers of push-ups and sit-ups or hiking countless miles while wearing a too heavy rucksack. It meant drills (and/or grass drills); shooting ranges, GI parties (party favors for those were sponges, brooms and mops), and of course field trips (more times than not, in the rain or cold). It meant mind-numbing hours on guard duty or kitchen patrol. If you had managed to earn yourself extra duty; by breaking one or more of the numerous regulations, then you had up to 22 hours a day of the same mind-numbing work, followed by a ‘generous’ 2 hours of sleep. Then you did it all again the next day.
5. Being a U.S. military veteran also means you were willing to fight and die in service to this country. It meant being separated from friends, family and loved ones. It meant giving up control of your life to others and having to trust your well-being to them. It meant risking life and limb and potential (permanent) injury, either to complete a mission, help your buddies fighting alongside you or just in doing what you were supposed to do. It meant you took an oath to ‘Support and Defend the Constitution of the United States’... and lived up to your part of the bargain. Since there is no longer a military draft in this country, it meant you voluntarily signed up.
6. As a Veteran we share a whole host of experiences. Memories good and bad. The brother/sisterhood of knowing that someone has/had our six and would not leave us behind. We knew that at that time we were not alone physically. We knew that we had some praying people with us because where we were and things going on around us. God was out front of us leading us into the fight. Now after we completed the mission we as Veterans still help fellow veterans by helping other Veterans by providing information, funds, volunteering with Veterans of Foreign Wars.
7. If you served in combat I solicit your participation with the David Thompson VFWPost 8969.
8. If you served but not in a combat situation you should join the American Legion.

9. I want to thank you for the opportunity of serving you and thank you for your continued support.
10. For more information you can contact me below.

Roland Little

Veterans Committee

First Baptist Church

910-474-1315

From: Roland Little Veterans Committee Chairman

Which Party Is Jesus With?

By Pastor Paul G. Matthews



In this political season, it seems to be turning into a very volatile election. The country will decide on whether to continue with our current head of state or possibly change. Political party lines have been drawn causing divisions within our country, state, county, city and even the community of faith. The question arises, “What political party would Jesus be a part of?” To answer this question, we must look at both political parties. Both Democrat and Republican parties have issues and agendas that have a biblical perspective but also have contradictory values. Both parties have churches and faith leaders promoting that God is with them yet many of the parties’ leaders and candidates show no sign of God in policies or lifestyles. We can find clarity of this question in the prophecy of Isaiah.

In the 9th chapter of Isaiah, the prophet gives the nation hope in the midst of spiritual darkness. There would be a time of judgment where Zebulon and Naphtali would fall to the Assyrian empire. The nation would feel the gloom but the Isaiah gives hope. Isaiah 9:6a declares, “*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son given: And the government shall be upon his shoulder...*” Many believed that

Isaiah spoke of someone of David’s Lineage that would bring deliverance but didn’t understand that Jesus, referred as the Son of David, would be the Deliverer. *The government being on his shoulder* basically means that Jesus would have the authority. In other words, instead of being a part of a particular party, Jesus would be the authority that all parties and government would be upon His shoulder. So instead of being loyal to a party with our vote, let’s vote with a loyalty to He who is called Wonderful Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace(Isa. 9:6b).